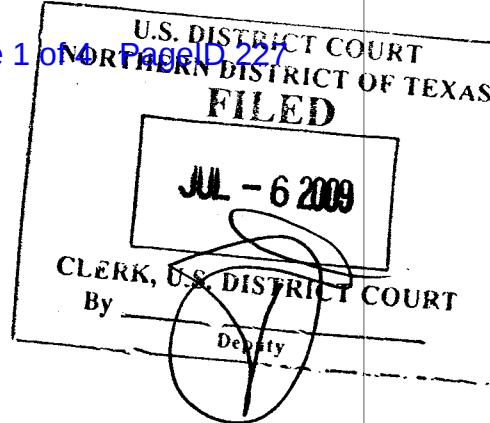


ORIGINAL

June 22, 2009

Clerk, Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit  
600 S. Maestri Place  
New Orleans LA 70130

Ref: Your correspondence dated June 1, 2009 and  
June 11, 2009. Appeal No. 09-10518



Dear Clerk:

I am very much confused. I am unaware that a criminal defendant in a first direct criminal appeal is subject to either a district court fee (\$5.00) or a court of appeals fee (\$455.00).

{ Can you provide some authority for requiring a criminal defendant to pay for the exercise of his Constitutional right to a first direct appeal?

Please note that, in protest, both fees were paid to the District Court's office on June 19, 2009 pursuant to your clerk's direction given to my agent, Rex Smith. I believe these sums were wrongly levied and desire them returned as soon as possible.

In addition, in another matter, please note that the court reporter's order form was mailed to the court reporter and all necessary parties. I have not received the record on appeal, which is a condition precedent to my ability to prepare a timely brief. As of now, the brief in the criminal appeal is due July 5th (because of the holiday). Should that date not be continued until a responsible time after I receive the record on appeal?

Please advise.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald C. Pearson

Ronald C. Pearson #36037-177  
Federal Correctional Institution  
PO Box 9000  
Seagoville TX 75159-9000

July 28, 2009

Dear Clerk,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter that was recently sent to the 5th Circuit in New Orleans.

To avoid an immediate problem, I decided to pay the \$455<sup>00</sup> filing fee in spite of continued concern on my part that this is not required. The gentleman assisting me in my appeal insists that this amount does not apply for a first debt criminal appeal. He has filed such appeals many times in the past and this has never been an issue.

It has been a little early to hear back from New Orleans, but I have decided to get a copy of this letter off to you for your perusal and would welcome a reply specifically stating why a filing fee is applicable in my particular case.

Respectfully,

Ronald C. Pearson

#36037-177

FCI

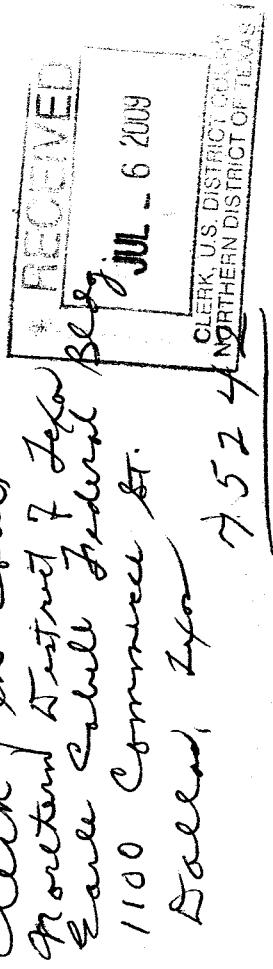
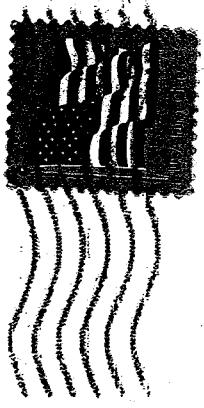
P.O. Box 9000

Seagoville, TX 75159-9000

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Ronald P. Pearson  
#36032-177  
F.C.I.  
P.O. Box 9000  
Seagoville, TX  
75159-9000

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